



Senate Fiscal Agency
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BILL ANALYSIS

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Senate Bill 1084 (as introduced 2-6-08)

Sponsor: Senator Ron Jelinek

Committee: Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs

Date Completed: 5-29-08

CONTENT

The bill would create a new act to do the following:

- Authorize the removal, capture, or killing of a gray wolf that was attacking livestock.**
- Prescribe procedures following the legal taking of a gray wolf.**
- Prescribe a misdemeanor penalty for a violation of the procedures.**

Specifically, the owner of livestock, or his or her designated agent, could remove, capture, or, if deemed necessary, use lethal means to destroy a gray wolf that was in the act of killing, wounding, or biting the owner's livestock.

The owner or designated agent would have to report the taking of a gray wolf to a conservation officer as soon as practicable, but not later than 24 hours after the taking. The owner or designated agent would have to retain possession of the wolf until a conservation officer was available to take possession of and transfer it to the appropriate Department of Natural Resources (DNR) personnel for examination. A person who violated either of these provisions would be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of at least \$50 but not more than \$500.

The owner or designated agent could report the taking of a gray wolf by using the DNR's Report All Poaching hotline at 1-800-292-7800.

The DNR could promulgate rules to implement the proposed act pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act.

Under the bill, "livestock" would mean those species of animals used for human food or fiber or those species used for service to humans. The term would include cattle, sheep, new world camelids, goats, bison, privately owned cervids, ratites, swine, equine, poultry, aquaculture, and rabbits.

Legislative Analyst: Julie Cassidy

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on the State. The additional responsibilities of conservation officers to retrieve a gray wolf from the owner of livestock would be paid for from existing resources.

The bill would have an indeterminate fiscal impact on local government. There are no data to indicate how many offenders would be convicted of the proposed offenses involving the taking of gray wolves. Additional penal fine revenue would benefit public libraries.

Fiscal Analyst: Lindsay Hollander
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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.